THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) and (b) It was envisaged that a Visa Facilitation Cell would be set up by National association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) in its head office in Delhi and its other regional offices to assist Indian IT professionals in the matters of obtaining proper visas for their travel abroad for work. The Visa Facilitation Cell of the NASSCOM has conducted Visa workshops and brought in country delegations from Wales, U.K., Malaysia, Canada, Italy, Singapore and Germany a part of its Annual Conference 2003 to provide an interactive platform for the Indian companies on various issues including visa regulations of the respective countries. Similar interactive sessions have been organized by NASSCOM with Consulates of Canada and Embassies of USA and Shenghen countries.

Waiting list of telephone connections in Orissa

945. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people waiting for telephone connections in each district in Orissa;

(b) the steps taken to clear the waiting list; and

(c) by when, telephone would be sanctioned in each district on demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The number of people waiting for telephone connections in each district in Orissa is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(b) A total of 1,37,000 Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) have already been planned by BSNL during 2003-04 of which 93,313 have been provided upto 31.10.2003 (including 20479 land lines, 7619 WLL connections and 65215 cellular mobile connections) BSNL is making all out efforts for provision of telephones to wait listed applicants as well as new registrations in each of the districts by expansion of landline, Mobile and Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) telephones.

(c) In major exchanges of the State, telephone connections are being provided on demand. However, most of the waiting list is in the rural areas at far flung places where laying of Underground cable is economically not viable. At these places, the connections shall be provided progressively through wireless technologies such as WLL and CMTS subject to availability of resources.

Statement

District-wise waiting list of telephone connections in Orissa

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	Name of the Revenue District	Waiting List
1.	Balasore	Balasore	1152
		Bhadrak	1235
2.	Baripada	Mayurbhanja	724
3.	Berhampur	Ganjam	157
		Gajapati	53
4.	Bhawanipatna	Kalahandi	480
		Nuapada	0
5.	Bhubaneswar	Puri	2678
		Nayagarh	162
		Khurda	1624
6.	Bolangir	Bolangir	8
		Sonepur	20
7.	Cuttack	Cuttack	784
		Kendrapada	341
		Jajpur	525
		Jagatsinghpur	1490
8.	Dhenkanal	Dhenkanal	121
		Anugul	339
9.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar	826

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	Name of the Revenue District	Waiting List
10.	Koraput	Koraput	76
		Rayagada	0
		Malkangiri	0
		Nowrangpur	0
11.	Phulabani	Phulabani (Kandhamal)	23
		Boudh	13
12.	Rourkela	Sundargarh	252
13.	Sambalpur	Sambalpur	320
		Jharsuguda	349
		Deogarh	6
		Bargah	270
		TOTAL	14028

Telephone Adalats

946. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Telephone Adalats organized in each districts of Assam during the last three years; and

(b) the number of cases referred to these Adalats and disposed of during this period, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The details of the Telephone Adalats organized in each telecom district of Assam Telecom Circle during the last three years is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(b) The number of cases referred to these Telephone Adalats, disposed of during this period is also given in the Statement.